

IN THE CLAIMS

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1. (Currently Amended) A data processing system for executing a secure e-financial transaction for an account, without disclosing any personal financial information, comprising:

a central controller including a CPU and a memory operatively connected to said CPU;

at least one terminal, adapted for communicating with said central controller, by transmitting the secure parameter to said central controller; said memory in said central controller containing a program, adapted to be executed by said CPU, for executing e-financial transactions for the secure parameter, wherein the secure parameter is a password or code; wherein said central controller receives the secure parameter from said terminal and executes the e-financial transaction for the account based upon the secure parameter, without requiring access to personal financial, banking or credit card information[]] :

said system comprising:

a central controller located at a bank, said controller including a CPU and a memory operatively connected to said CPU;

a client's input/output device purchased from the bank for a given amount, said device having a password assigned to it and installed onto the client's computer; a merchant's website;

wherein the e-financial transaction starts with:

- the client browsing the merchant website, followed by placing an order using the password assigned to the client's input/output device,

- the merchant website relaying the input data to the central controller, and

- the central controller validating the client's password and order and authorizing or denying the order based on the client's input/output password for the account, without accessing any further personal data of the client.

2. (Previously Amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein the input/output device is further adapted to transmit customer information to said controller, and said program in said memory executes the financial transaction in the account having the secure parameter based upon a customer's information.

3. (Original) The system according to claim 2, wherein the customer information comprises an account identifier that specifies a pre-existing bank account, and said secure parameter comprises a password.

4. (Original) The system according to claim 1, wherein said program in said memory is adapted to receive a customer acceptance via said terminal to enter into an account having the secure parameter and charge the customer the calculated amount of funds by debiting the customer's account and transferring the funds to a bank account specified by the customer.

5. (Original) The system according to claim 2, wherein the input/output device comprises an electronic vault, a microcomputer chip or smart card.

6. (Original) The system according to claim 3, wherein the password is transferred using an encryption technology.

7. (Currently Amended) A method of executing an e-financial transaction having at least one customer specified secure parameter, such that no personal financial information is disclosed during the transaction, [using a central controller including a CPU and a memory operatively connected to a CPU and containing a program adapted to be executed by said CPU for calculating the amount of funds, and a terminal adapted for communicating with said central controller,] the method comprising the steps of:

transferring a specified amount of funds to a central controller located at a bank through an electronic fund transfer or cash,  
receiving an input/output device and a secure password from the central controller, and installing the device on a consumer's computer,  
placing an order on a [merchant] merchant's website using the secure password, relaying the inputs from the customer computer and the merchant website to the central controller via a terminal;  
processing a program to execute or deny the e-financial transaction.

8. (Original) The method according to claim 7, further comprising the step of inputting customer information to the controller via the terminal, and wherein the step processing the program further comprises calculating the amount of funds based on the customer information.

9. (Original) The method according to claim 7, wherein the step of inputting the customer information further comprises inputting an account identifier that specifies a pre-existing bank account.

10. (Previously Amended) A data processing system for executing an e-financial transaction having at least one customer specified secret password, wherein personal financial information is protected through the use of an input/output device, comprising:

a CPU;

a memory operatively connected to said CPU,

said memory containing a program, adapted to be executed by said CPU, for receiving the secret password and calculating the amount of funds having the secret password; and

said input/output device, operatively connected to at least one of said memory and said CPU, for input of the secret password and for output of the funds.

11. (Previously Amended) A method of executing an e-financial transaction, wherein personal financial information is protected through the use of an I/O device, having at least one customer specified secret password using a CPU and a memory operatively connected to said CPU and containing a program, adapted to be executed by said CPU, for calculating a price, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving the secret password;

executing the program in the CPU for calculating:

the amount of funds having the secret password; and

out putting the funds.

12. (Previously Amended) Computer executable steps, stored on a computer readable medium, for executing an e-financial transaction, wherein personal financial

information is protected through the use of an I/O device, having at least one customer specified secret password, comprising:

- a step to receive the secret password;
- a step to calculate the amount of funds having the password; and
- a step to output the funds.